

# **REPORT OF THE STUDIES COMMITTEE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**June 10, 2009**

The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council met on June 10, 2009, and makes the following report for approval by the Legislative Council:

**A. Guidelines.** That the attached guidelines for 2009 and 2010 interim studies be adopted by the Legislative Council.

**B. 2009 Studies.** That the attached proposal for studies for the 2009 Interim be adopted by the Legislative Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Speaker Patrick J. Murphy  
Chairperson

# **PROPOSED GUIDELINES FOR INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEES**

## **2007-2008 2009-2010 INTERIMS**

~~Approved by the Legislative Council June 13, 2007~~ Submitted June 10, 2009

### **ADOPTION OF RULES**

Interim study committees must have a majority of the members representing each house voting affirmatively in order to adopt rules.

### **COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC MEMBERS**

Persons serving as public members of study committees are eligible to receive actual expenses only, if they are not eligible for expense reimbursement by an organization that they represent. In order for a public member representing an organization to be eligible to receive actual expenses, the organization must submit a letter to the Legislative Council indicating that the public member is not eligible for the reimbursement from the organization. Payment of the expenses is subject to the approval of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Council.

### **STAFF WORK FOR PUBLIC MEMBERS**

After consultation with, as appropriate, the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) Director and legislative leadership, a study committee chair may authorize research or legislative drafting work by the LSA for public members of study committees.

### **APPROVAL OF NOMINEES**

Public members of study committees may be nominated by designated organizations, subject to Legislative Council approval or subject to the approval of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Legislative Council in consultation with the Minority Leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives.

### **MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

Any change in membership numbers and voting status of the members of a legislative interim study body approved by the Legislative Council requires the approval of the Studies Committee and Legislative Council or legislative leadership.

### **GENDER BALANCE**

Appointment of public members to study committees shall be gender balanced.

## APPROVAL OF ACTIONS

A majority vote of a study committee's voting members present is necessary to carry any action; however, recommendations to the Legislative Council or General Assembly must be adopted with the affirmative votes of a majority of the committee's members of each house.

## VOTING BY PUBLIC MEMBERS

Unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly or the Legislative Council, public members of study committees are nonvoting.

## APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AND MEETINGS OUTSIDE DES MOINES

Any additional meeting or a meeting or public hearing by a ~~study~~ legislative committee held outside of Des Moines requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee or legislative leadership.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

When authorization is given for a study committee to hold a public hearing, the committee may hold one hearing as a body or individual members may each hold a public hearing or groups of two or more members may hold public hearings. However, for each authorized public hearing, no members of the study committee may receive compensation for attendance at more than one session.

## APPROVAL OF EXPENSES FOR SPEAKERS AND CONSULTING WORK

Any expenditure by a study committee for a speaker or presentation or for any other purpose either requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and Legislative Council, or legislative leadership, or requires inclusion of the expenditure in a budget proposed by the study committee and approved by the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council, or legislative leadership. Contractual consulting work for a study committee requires the prior approval of the Studies Committee and the Legislative Council. Expenditures shall only be made in accordance with legislative expenditure policies and procedures.

## SCHEDULING GUIDELINES

For the ~~2007~~ 2009 interim, the deadline for completion of interim study committee meetings is ~~November 26, 2007~~ November 30, 2009, and for the ~~2008~~ 2010 interim the deadline is ~~December 15, 2008~~ December 17, 2010. An interim study committee must meet the deadline or receive an exemption or a revised deadline date from the Legislative Council or legislative leadership.

# Proposal for 2009 Legislative Interim Studies by Studies Committee to the Legislative Council

## **A. Carryover Study from 2007 and 2008 Interims**

### **1. Criminal Code Reorganization Study Committee**

**Charge:** Continue meeting to consider proposals for Criminal Code revisions, reorganization, and updates.

**Members:** 3 Senate/3 House/8 Voting Public Members appointed by leaders to represent each of the following: Professor from University of Iowa College of Law, Professor from Drake University Law School, district court judge, Iowa Attorney General, State Public Defender, Iowa County Attorneys Association, Iowa Board of Parole, and Department of Corrections. The committee and its subcommittees are authorized to hold meetings outside the Des Moines area.

**Meeting Days:** 1 (beginning 7/1/09)

## **B. Statutory Committees**

### **1. Legislative Health Care Coverage Commission (2009 Acts, SF 389, §1)**

**Charge:** The Commission is required to develop an Iowa health care reform strategic plan, addressing various aspects listed in the legislation. The Commission is created under the authority of the Legislative Council, with administrative support to be provided by the Legislative Services Agency (LSA). The Legislative Council is required to appoint a chairperson and vice chairperson from the voting membership. An appropriation of \$200,000 for costs associated with the Commission, including any per diem or other expenses associated with meetings, is made to LSA in 2009 Iowa Acts, HF 820, §65, as amended by SF 478, §160. The Commission is required to complete its deliberations by July 1, 2011, provide quarterly reports, and provide progress reports on January 1, 2010, and 2011.

**Members:** 11 members of the public as voting members

2 Senate/2 House as ex officio, nonvoting members

3 agency directors or their designees as ex officio, nonvoting members  
(directors of DHS and DPH and Commissioner of Insurance)

**Meeting Days:** 3

### **2. Job Training Needs Study Committee (2009 Iowa Acts, SF 478, §188)**

**Charge:** Examine various job training issues and needs, with a particular focus on underserved populations in Iowa. Underserved populations include people earning less than \$20,000 per year, minorities, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, and persons convicted of felonies who are trying to reenter society after release from prison.

**Members:** 5 Senate/5 House

**Meeting Days:** 1

**3. Public Retirement Systems Committee** (Iowa Code §97D.4)

**Charge:** Review and evaluate all public retirement systems in place in Iowa, including the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS), the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (411), the Department of Public Safety Peace Officers' Retirement System (PORS), the Judicial Retirement System, and TIAA-CREF.

**Members:** 5 Senate/5 House

**Meeting Days:** 2

**4. School Finance Formula Review Committee** (Iowa Code §257.1(4))

**Charge:** Prepare a school finance formula status report and provide recommendations in accordance with the requirements of Iowa Code §257.1(4), including receiving assistance from the departments of education, management, and revenue; providing recommendations for school finance formula changes or revisions based upon demographic changes, enrollment trends, and property tax valuation fluctuations observed during the preceding five-year interval; providing an analysis of the operation of the school finance formula during the preceding five-year interval; and incorporating a summary of issues that have arisen since the previous review and potential approaches for their resolution.

**Members:** 5 Senate/5 House

**Meeting Days:** 1

**C. Other Interim Studies**

**1. Government Oversight Standing Committees**

**Charge:** Continue holding joint meetings during the 2009 Interim to conduct targeted oversight.

**Members:** 5 Senate/9 House

**Meeting Days:** 2 (beginning 7/1/09)

**2. State Government Reorganization Commission**

**Charge:** Consider options for reorganizing state government to improve efficiency, modernize processes, eliminate duplication and outdated processes, reduce costs, and increase accountability. The review shall address the expanded use of the Internet and other technology, and the incorporation of productivity improvement measures. The study shall include a process to receive state government efficiency suggestions offered by the public and public employees.

**Members:** 5 Senate/5 House

**Meeting Days:** 2

### **3. Care of Animals in Commercial Enterprises Study Committee**

**Charge:** Consider regulation and other issues connected with the care of dogs, cats, and other pets in nonagricultural commercial establishments and enterprises. The Study Committee shall consult with representatives of the Iowa Voters for Companion Animals, the Animal Rescue League of Iowa, the Humane Society of the United States, the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and Iowa Pet Breeders Association.

**Members:** 5 Senate/5 House

**Meeting Days:** 1

### **4. Prescription Medication Usage Study Committee**

**Charge:** Identify strategies and solutions to address problems arising from inappropriate medication use in the health care system. The Study Committee shall invite testimony from relevant experts, including the Department of Public Health, the Iowa Pharmacy Association, the Iowa Medical Society, Wellmark Blue Cross-Blue Shield, the Principal Financial Group, the University of Iowa College of Public Health, the Iowa Retail Federation, the Prevention and Chronic Care Management Advisory Council (Iowa Code §135.161), the Medical Home System Advisory Council (Iowa Code §135.159), the Iowa Healthcare Collaborative (Iowa Code §135.40), the Health Policy Corporation of Iowa, the Iowa Foundation for Medical Care, Outcomes Pharmaceutical Health Care, and the National Association of Chain Drug Stores.

**Members:** 3 Senate/3 House

**Meeting Days:** 1